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Country programme document

Viet Nam

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for Viet Nam is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $22,110,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $50,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2017 to 2021.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2016.

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Programme rationale

1. Viet Nam is a lower middle-income country that has made rapid progress towards economic prosperity and human development.[1] Poverty rates declined from 58 per cent in 1993 to 10 per cent in 2014.[2] Viet Nam has achieved three of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and made notable progress towards five others.[3]

2. Despite these achievements, Viet Nam is at a critical juncture. Serious challenges include: an unfinished MDG agenda, widening social inequality,[4] and persistent disparities by ethnicity, gender and locality. With state-funded social assistance limited to the poorest, a majority of the population, especially low and lower-middle income groups, are without social protection.

3. About one in five children, or approximately 5.5 million children, experience at least two deprivations in education, health, nutrition, shelter, water and sanitation, or social inclusion.[5] Climate vulnerability affects over 74 per cent of the population, especially the poor who lack resilience to shocks,[6] while urbanization has increased the vulnerabilities of migrant families who have limited access to social services.

4. The under-five child mortality rate is 20 per 1,000 live births, down from 36 in 1990, with a majority of under-five deaths occurring during the first year (82 per cent) and during the first month (61 per cent).[7] However, the rate among ethnic minorities is 53 per 1,000 live births.[8] Stunting still affects one in four children under the age of five,[9] with rates as high as one in three in disadvantaged regions.[10] An estimated 13 per cent of children under-five and 35 per cent of breastfeeding women have vitamin A deficiency. This situation is

[1] Since the Doi Moi reforms (Doi Moi is the name given to the economic reforms initiated in Viet Nam in 1986), per capita income has quadrupled to $1,908 (http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/vietnam/overview). The country's human development index value was 0.66 in 2014, which placed it in the medium development category.

[2] UNDP and the Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), "Viet Nam national human development report on inclusive growth", 2015.

[3] Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, "Country report: fifteen years achieving the Viet Nam MDGs", 2015. Goals achieved are: MDG 1, 2 and 3 with notable progress towards MDGs 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. It is also noted that Viet Nam is one of three countries in the region considered on-track to meet the MDG stunting target (International Food Policy Research Institute, *Global Nutrition Report 2015: Actions and Accountability to Advance Nutrition and Sustainable Development*, Washington, D.C., 2015).

[4] Ibid. The Gini coefficient rose modestly from 0.33 in 1993 to 0.356 in 2015.

[5] The General Statistics Office (GSO) and UNICEF, Multi-dimensional child poverty in Viet Nam using data from the Viet Nam Household Living Standards Survey 2014. Ethnicity, language, socioeconomic and geographic location are major determinants of deprivation. Higher incidences of child poverty were found among ethnic minorities (52.4 per cent) and in rural areas (26.6 per cent).

[6] UNDP and VASS (2015), "Viet Nam national human development report on inclusive growth", 2015. Viet Nam is the sixth most affected country from extreme weather events such as typhoons and flooding. Economic losses are estimated at 0.91 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) per annum.

[7] According to GSO and UNICEF, Viet Nam: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2014, the infant mortality rate is 16.2 per 1,000 live births and neo-natal mortality is 12 per 1,000 live births.

[8] GSO and UNICEF, Viet Nam: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2014.

[9] National Institute of Nutrition, "Statistics of malnutrition among children under five", 2014.

[10] Central highlands, northern mountains, and south-central coastal regions have under-five stunting rates of 34.9 per cent, 30.7 per cent and 28.1 per cent, respectively (Source: National Institute of Nutrition, nutrition profile 2014).

partly explained by poor infant and young child feeding practices, poor sanitation and hygiene, and unsafe drinking water.[11]

5. While national school completion rates have reached high levels,[12] children with disabilities, ethnic minority children, and children of migrant families have lower completion rates and higher drop-out rates. There are 1.3 million children with disabilities and only about one in 10 attend secondary school.[13]

6. The major gap in supporting the cognitive and emotional development of boys and girls in Viet Nam is found in the zero to four age group. Approximately 77 per cent of kindergarten-age children and 13 per cent of pre-primary school age children do not attend any formal pre-learning programme.[14] Disparities in learning outcomes between the *Kinh* majority and the ethnic minorities are mainly attributed to a lack of school readiness.[15]

7. More than two in three children aged one to 14 years experience violent discipline, 16 per cent of children aged five to 17 years are involved in household chores and economic activities that constitute child labour, and 8 per cent are working under hazardous conditions.[16] There are over 170,000 children without parental care, many destitute or abandoned.[17]

8. Despite impressive gains for gender equality,[18] there remain concerns.[19] Between 2011 and 2014, early marriage among women aged 15 to 19 years increased from 8 to 10 per cent,[20] with 29.5 per cent among ethnic minority women. The adolescent birth rate is

[11] GSO and UNICEF, "Viet Nam national human development report on inclusive growth", 2014. Only one in four infants are exclusively breastfed, half of children under-two have access to a minimum acceptable diet, and one in five households do not have access to improved sanitation facilities, with variations in coverage between urban and rural areas, at 22 and 6 per cent, respectively. Meanwhile 8 per cent of the population or over seven million people, including 800,000 children under age five, consume water from unimproved sources.

[12] School completion rates at the national level are 96 per cent for primary school and 90 per cent for lower secondary school, respectively (source: Ministry of Education and Training (MOET)).

[13] MOET and UNICEF, "Out-of-school Children in Viet Nam: A country study, 2013". At the lower secondary level, large disparities emerge with only 66 per cent of children from the poorest income quintile and only 70 per cent of ethnic minorities completing school. Of the estimated 12 per cent of school-age children not in school, 83 per cent were children with disabilities and 16 per cent were migrants. Among ethnic minority communities, over one in three school-age children are not in school.

[14] According to MOET, as of July 2014, there were 3,494,766 young children from three to 36 months old in Viet Nam, and only 817,378 of them (23 per cent) attended nursery school or kindergarten. There were 4,376,488 children of pre-primary school age (three to six years old), and 3,810,238 of them (87 per cent) were officially enrolled in school. 1,487,410 five year olds attended pre-primary school, and 1,399,852 (95 per cent) had access to a full-day schooling.

[15] GSO and UNICEF, 2013, Ibid. Contributing factors are stunting, language differences, and lack of access to quality early childhood education (CEC) services in remote and underserved areas.

[16] GSO and UNICEF, 2014, Ibid.

[17] According to the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA), 2015, barriers for effective social protection of children are: (a) low levels of awareness about essential child-care practices, especially in remote communities; (b) harmful social norms; and (c) lack of an inclusive social protection system, including alternative or foster care options.

[18] Viet Nam ranks relatively high on gender equality (number 60 among 188 countries in the 2014 gender equality index) with minimal gender differences in educational attainment for girls and boys.

[19] The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discriminantion against Women: the committee's concluding observations in the combined 7th and 8th CEDAW periodic reports for Viet Nam.

[20] GSO and UNICEF, 2014, Ibid.

45 nationally and much higher among ethnic minority girls.[21] Over half of women report physical, sexual or emotional abuse at home.[22]

9. The legal and policy environment affecting children is shaped by: (a) the new child law; (b) the five-year and annual socioeconomic development plans (SEDP); and (c) national target programmes (NTPs). Decentralization is accelerating. Half of general expenditures and three quarters of capital expenditures occur at the subnational level. This provides a growing fiscal space to close equity gaps for children.[23]

10. As a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council, the Government is keen to align the national legislation with international standards.[24] Two consolidated NTPs for rural development and sustainable poverty reduction and the Government's shift from a monetary to a multi-dimensional system of measuring poverty offer the opportunity to address multi-dimensional child poverty and vulnerabilities in a more integrated and cross-sectoral manner.

11. The corporate sector plays an increasingly important role in achieving results for children, including adoption of the Children's Rights and Business Principles (CRBP), and financial and non-financial contributions such as the ZEROworkplace[25] initiative and the potential for private sector fund-raising.

12. The challenge for Viet Nam in the coming decade is to ensure that the country's nearly 26 million children benefit equally from economic prosperity. This is impeded by the following common system-wide bottlenecks:

(a) specific gaps in the legal framework that offer a focused policy advocacy agenda for children;[26]

(b) the need for improved transparency and equity in public finance decisions for children, and strengthened capacity of the Government to use quality, disaggregated data for planning and budgeting. UNICEF will build on its past successes with the provincial people's committees (PPC) to increase spending on vulnerable groups and underserved areas;[27]

(c) weaknesses in cross-sectoral approaches for early childhood development. A further lesson from the previous programme is that these approaches are essential to overcome bottlenecks for the delivery and monitoring of quality services; and

[21] According to GSO and UNICEF, 2014, Viet Nam: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, the adolescent birth rate among ethnic minority girls is 115 births per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19.

[22] GSO and UNICEF, 2014, Ibid., GSO, 2010, "National study on domestic violence against women in Viet Nam".

[23] World Bank, "Making the whole greater than the sum of the parts: a review of fiscal decentralization in Viet Nam", 2015.

[24] Decision 535/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister dated 14 April 2014 on approval of the plan for implementation of recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child from 2014-2020.

[25] ZEROworkplace is a voluntary workplace initiative begun in Ho Chi Minh City that provides access to social services for migrant workers and their families. Services include immunization, referral, and life-saving information about health, nutrition, education and the protection of children.

[26] For example: (a) a comprehensive decree to implement the child law; (b) a law to establish the social work profession and standards; (c) a revised decree on state management of education; and (d) decision of the Prime Minister on integrated early childhood development (IECD).

[27] MOLISA and UNICEF, "Mid-term review: Government of Viet Nam and UNICEF country programme of cooperation", 2015.

(d) harmful social norms and discrimination against girls and women, ethnic minorities, children with disabilities, and children from migrant families.

13. In the context of a lower middle-income country, programme cooperation must focus on select priorities where UNICEF can strengthen evidence-based policy-making, demonstrate the effectiveness of cross-sectoral approaches at local levels to influence government investments for children, and increase public awareness and forge new partnerships to reduce child vulnerabilities.

14. UNICEF has identified three such programme priorities: (a) accountability and system building for child rights and protection; (b) integrated early childhood development; and (c) programme partnership, public advocacy and communication for child rights.

15. These priorities respond to the situation analysis[28] and lessons from the mid-term review,[29] and are aligned with recent concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

16. Programme cooperation will offer opportunities for South-South collaboration to share and strengthen models for integrated early childhood development (IECD) at the local level, social protection reform, and independent child rights monitoring.

Programme priorities and partnerships

17. The Government-UNICEF country programme aims to reduce the multiple vulnerabilities of children and ensure that they can reach their full potential. To address the system-wide bottlenecks noted in paragraph 12, the country programme will focus on the following strategies:

(a) evidence-based advocacy and technical support for an equity-focused and child-sensitive legal framework, plans and budgets;

(b) capacity development and innovation for the planning, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of quality services at the local level that require strong cross-sectoral coordination;

(c) strengthening partnerships with civil society[30] and the corporate sector to increase knowledge and commitment for social change; and

(d) within the overall One Strategic Plan (OSP) between the Government and United Nations system, 2017-2021, in Viet Nam, supporting effective coordination of Government-United Nations system initiatives that produce results for children.

18. The three following programmes will contribute to the Socioeconomic Development Plan (SEDP) priority for social development, and the One Strategic Plan outcomes for

[28] United Nations in Viet Nam, common country assessment and UNICEF (2016, April draft) situation analysis of children in Viet Nam, 2016.
[29] MOLISA and UNICEF, 2015, Ibid.
[30] Civil society in Viet Nam includes: legally established socio-political organizations, political-socio-professional organizations, social organizations, socio-professional organizations, social funds, charitable funds, social enterprises and other non-commercial organizations

poverty and vulnerability reduction, equity in health and education, and accountable institutions, which are also relevant to Sustainable Development Goal targets.[31]

Accountability and system-building for child rights and protection

19. The programme will seek to influence the national legal and policy agenda, and strengthen government systems for the realization of child rights. It will particularly strengthen social protection measures, based on child-sensitive public financial management. There are two outcomes.

20. Cooperation under the first outcome will build on the new child law. UNICEF will advocate for and support targeted sub-laws to address key gaps in the legal framework and also help to make the socioeconomic development plans and national target programmes more child-sensitive and equitable.

21. Priority results and strategies will:

(a) enhance capacities of the National Assembly and people's councils to ensure the alignment of national legislation with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international standards;

(b) generate evidence on public finance for children and the situation of and risks for children and adolescents from socioeconomic changes, regional economic integration, accelerated urbanization and migration;

(c) advocate with the National Assembly and the Government to strengthen the equity focus of critical public policy vehicles;

(d) establish the legal framework for a comprehensive child protection system and social work profession, and develop policy options to scale up IECD services at the local level; and

(e) generate awareness and introduce mechanisms for greater civil society[32] participation in the policy process and child rights initiatives.[33]

22. UNICEF will also support the Government to meet international commitments to: (a) eliminate open defecation by 2025; (b) ensure safe drinking water for all by 2030; (c) scale up nutrition; and (d) ensure education for all by 2030.

23. Cooperation with United Nations system organizations will:

(a) support national capacities in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) strengthen national capacities for emergency preparedness and response that adhere to the core commitments for children;[34]

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[31] Relevant Sustainable Development Goal targets: to adopt social protection systems for greater equality (1.3, 10.4), to reduce the child mortality rate (3.2) and the prevalence of stunting (2.2), to ensure all children enjoy quality early childhood development (ECD) and pre-primary education (4.2), to promote non-discriminatory laws (16.b), to promote inclusion (10.2), to enhance inclusive urbanization (11.3), to end violence against children (16.2), to ensure participatory decision-making (16.7), and to promote effective public-private partnerships (17.17).

[32] Civil society in Viet Nam (see footnote 30).

[33] Viet Nam voice and accountability index rank, 2014: 9.9/100.

[34] UNICEF in Viet Nam is a cluster lead or co-lead for nutrition, WASH, education, and child protection.

(c) address gender equality concerns such as early marriage among ethnic minority women, adolescent life skills and pregnancy, and violence against women;[35] and

(d) promote disaster risk reduction, adaptation and mitigation measures that address the climate and environment-related vulnerabilities of children.[36]

24. The second outcome will address multi-dimensional child poverty and vulnerabilities. It will explore and provide options to strengthen social protection policies and to operationalize the child protection system.

25. Priority results and strategies will:

(a) develop innovative social protection measures to address increased out-of-pocket spending on essential social services;

(b) harmonize multi-dimensional child poverty monitoring with the national system;

(c) advocate for the scaling-up of the child protection system, with adequate human resources and service delivery mechanisms; and

(d) strengthen measures to refer juvenile cases away from the formal justice system, and promote community-based rehabilitation and reintegration of child offenders.

26. Key partners are: the National Assembly;[37] the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Finance (MOF), Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA), Justice (MOJ), Health (MOH), Education and Training (MOET), Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), and Public Security (MPS); the General Statistics Office (GSO); the Supreme People's Court (SPC); the Supreme People's Procuracy (SPP); civil society;[38] United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Integrated early childhood development

27. IECD uses a life-cycle approach to ensure that children are healthy, ready to learn, and thrive. The programme will strengthen the horizontal integration of services for expectant mothers and children, with a particular focus on the zero to four age group. These provide cumulative child development benefits.

28. UNICEF will strengthen national and local capacities to develop IECD models in selected localities of three provinces: Gia Lai, Kon Tum, and Dien Bien. These will focus on the first, critical 1,000 days in a child's life. Expectant mothers will receive quality care during and after pregnancy, newborns will be breastfed in their first hour and exclusively

[35] UNICEF will collaborate closely with United Nations Gender Joint Programming Group as well as UN-Women and UNFPA in these specific areas.

[36] MOLISA and UNICEF, "Impacts of climate change and natural disasters on children", 2015. Rising sea levels will seriously affect the Mekong River Delta region, the Hong River Delta region, the North and South Central Coast regions and the Southeast region that supports approximately 80 per cent of the population. More extreme rainy and dry seasons will cause severe inundation and drought. Damaged infrastructure and service interruptions will increase risks of infectious diseases and malnutrition for all children, especially those from low-income families, children with disabilities, and children living in remote and underserved areas.

[37] National Assembly committees and councils include: culture, education, youth and children, legal and social affairs, economic, financial and budgetary affairs, and ethnicity.

[38] Civil society in Viet Nam (see footnote 30).

for the next six months, and all young children will be vaccinated and receive a minimum acceptable diet. Throughout, care-seeking, good hygiene and sanitation are vital. Parents and caregivers will also be supported to offer the stimulation and protection from violence that will help children to make a safe transition to kindergarten and primary school.

29. New coordination and social assistance mechanisms will enable all children, especially children with disabilities and ethnic minority children, to enjoy IECD services. Models at the local level will generate evidence and financing options to expand IECD services nationally.

30. Priority results and strategies will:

(a) consolidate national standards for IECD, and develop a cross-sectoral coordination mechanism for IECD services;[39]

(b) strengthen local health systems to deliver quality maternal, newborn and child health and nutrition interventions, and to promote family caring practices that prevent neonatal death and stunting;

(c) support the expansion of successful, disaster-resistant models for integrated WASH services;

(d) promote play-based early stimulation and learning at home, strengthen early learning programmes, and support pre-primary and primary schools to offer quality, inclusive learning environments;

(e) strengthen local human resources and service delivery structures for effective child protection; and

(f) develop a social assistance mechanism to increase the access of vulnerable children to IECD.

31. Key partners are: provincial people's committees in three provinces, the national and local departments of MOH, MOET, MOLISA and MARD.

Programme partnership, public advocacy and communication for child rights

32. The programme aims to increase public awareness and action to address vulnerabilities and inequities affecting children. Communication campaigns and multi-stakeholder partnerships with local governments, the corporate sector, media and civil society[40] will increase knowledge and commitment for social change on major child rights

[39] At commune level, services for *integration* include: health and nutrition services for mothers and young children including: immunization, support for breastfeeding (first hour after birth; exclusively for six months; and continuing for up to 24 months); appropriate complementary feeding, the management of childhood illnesses, and WASH services. Parents and caregivers will also be counselled and supported to practice positive parenting and provide early stimulation for the cognitive and emotional development of young children.

Integrated services will be *complemented* by: (a) strengthened early childhood education (ECE) delivered through community-based childcare and pre-learning centres; and (b) effective child protection services managed by trained case managers and collaborators from the community child protection system.

Commune health centres with village health workers and nutrition collaborators will need to play key roles to support the coordination of local IECD services, make referrals, and ensure access for vulnerable groups.

[40] Civil society in Viet Nam (see footnote 30).

concerns, such as stunting, violence and social inclusion of children with disabilities, ethnic minorities and migrant children.

33. In addition to country-wide communication and public advocacy initiatives, the programme will build on the Child Friendly City Initiative in Ho Chi Minh City. It will partner with adolescents and young people, as agents of change, and it will engage with the provincial people's committees to increase spending on priorities for children.

34. Priority results and strategies will:

(a) develop new multi-stakeholder programme partnerships to focus on the unfinished MDGs and social inclusion of vulnerable groups;

(b) strengthen corporate knowledge, commitment and capacities to respect and support children's rights in line with the Children's Rights and Business Principles,[41] and seek opportunities for private sector fund-raising based on the best practices of countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

(c) promote communication and public advocacy initiatives, using social media and community-based platforms to stimulate public debate about child rights and harmful social norms, including gender-related inequalities; and

(d) strengthen the participation of adolescents and young people in public policy debates and use of innovative approaches for child rights realization.[42]

35. Key partners are: children, MOLISA, provincial people's committees, the Youth Union, the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, media, the corporate sector, civil society,[43] foreign chambers of commerce, and the UNICEF Corporate Advisory Board.[44]

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*	*Total*
Accountability and system building for child rights and protection	9 317	24 731	34 048
Integrated early childhood development	3 552	19 834	23 368
Programme partnership, public advocacy, and communication for child rights	7 291	5 064	12 355

[41] The Children's Rights and Business Principles were launched globally in 2012 and in Viet Nam in 2014 in partnership with Global Compact and Save the Children. General comment 16 issued by the Committee on the Rights of the Child provides guidance to governments on engaging the corporate sector to respect and support children's rights.

[42] For example, in 2015 the UNICEF innovation lab in Viet Nam started to pilot the UPSHIFT programme in Ho Chi Minh City with the aim to engage and empower marginalized young people to realize their role as agents of social change. UPSHIFT teaches transferable career skills in leadership, collaboration and communication, provides training in entrepreneurship, and gives young people the opportunity to define a problem in their community and lead the development of the solution.

[43] Civil society in Viet Nam (see footnote 30).

[44] The UNICEF Corporate Advisory Board comprises influential business leaders that advise UNICEF, generate corporate sector support and mobilize resources.

Programme effectiveness	1 950	371	2 321
Total	**22 110**	**50 000**	**72 110**

Programme and risk management

36. Cooperation between the Government and the United Nations system is managed by a tripartite mechanism that consists of high-level representatives of the Government, the United Nations country team and development partners.

37. UNICEF will continue to advocate and pursue strategic results for children and women by leading multi-stakeholder initiatives,[45] building on UNICEF comparative advantages.

38. Major risks include: diminishing development aid, unfinished public sector reform, and incomplete regulatory frameworks and natural disasters, including typhoons, flooding and drought. Internal risks concern the effective management of cross-sectoral programmes.

39. The risk management strategy involves advocacy, the provision of evidence about the return on investments to Viet Nam from more effective child-focused spending, and multi-stakeholder partnerships. Internally, UNICEF will establish programme coordination mechanisms to strengthen horizontal programme links for greater impact.

40. This CPD outlines the contributions of UNICEF to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

Monitoring and evaluation

41. UNICEF will collaborate with United Nations system organizations to carry out joint monitoring and reviews to track the progress towards One Strategic Plan outcomes. National results-based management capacities will be strengthened through joint capacity development.

42. UNICEF will conduct gender reviews to identify and inform areas for strengthening gender-based priorities and approaches in line with the gender action plan.

43. The results and resources framework is the basis for monitoring and evaluation of the UNICEF country programme. The Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, complemented by a costed evaluation plan, will define priority monitoring, research and evaluation activities. Three evaluations will examine: (a) the strategic positioning of cooperation at the subnational level; (b) the effectiveness of the IECD programme; and (c) the effectiveness of UNICEF support to the adoption of the Children's Rights and Business Principles in Viet Nam.

[45] For example, UNICEF co-convened a successful United Nations system initiative with MOLISA to extend cash transfers to vulnerable groups. The Swedish consultancy and training organization, SIPU (2016), "Formative review of the one plan, 2012-2016".

44. UNICEF will support the GSO to conduct relevant national surveys, including the Household Living Standards Survey, and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey that support Sustainable Development Goal monitoring with equity. UNICEF will also strengthen the use of the Monitoring Results for Equity System to inform the development of equity-focused national strategies and programmes.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Viet Nam – UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2017-2021

Convention on the Rights of the Child: 2. Non-discrimination; 3. Best interests of the child; 4. Protection of rights; 6. Survival and development; 12. Respect views of child; 15. Freedom of association; 17. Access to information; 18. Parental responsibilities; 19. Protection from violence; 23. Children with disabilities; 24. Health; 26. Social security; 27. Standard of living; 28. Education; 30. Minorities; 32. Child labour. **National priorities:** Ensure human rights; Reform state management and economic structure for innovative socioeconomic development; Distribute economic benefits and narrow the gap between the rich and the poor; Improve the rule of law; Create a transparent, enabling legal environment and bring into play grassroots democracy. Key targets: Reduce poverty by 1 to 1.5 per cent annually and by 4 per cent in poor districts; Increase social health insurance coverage to 80 per cent of population; Reduce child malnutrition to less than 10 per cent. **SDG targets**: Reduce stunting among children under-five (2.2); Reduce under-five mortality (3.2); Access to quality early childhood development and pre-primary education (4.2); Promote inclusion (10.2); Adopt social protection systems for greater equality (1.3, 10.4); Enhance inclusive urbanization (11.3); End all forms of violence against children (16.2); Promote non-discriminatory laws and policies (16.b); Participatory and representative decision-making (16.7).
One Strategic Plan (OSP) outcomes: 1.1 Poverty and vulnerability reduction; 1.2 Equity in health; 1.3 Equity in quality education and learning; 4.1 Inclusive, participatory decision-making; 4.2 Accountable, transparent and responsive institutions; 4.3 Human rights protection, rule of law, and access to justice.
Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcome(s): 1. Health; 2. HIV; 3. WASH; 4. Nutrition; 5. Education; 6. Child protection; 7. Social inclusion.

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
1. By 2021, there is an inclusive and protective legal and policy environment and	Level of use of disaggregated data to plan, monitor and evaluate SEDPs and policies for children[1]	Assessment reports	1.1. National Assembly and people's councils are able to oversee child rights laws, policies and programmes in line with the	National Assembly MPI, MOF, MOLISA, MOET, MOH, GSO	7 280	20 301	27 581

[1] Weak (Score 1): There is no evidence of use of disaggregated data to plan, monitor and evaluate SEDPs and policies for children; Initiating (Score 2): There is little evidence collected of use of disaggregated data to plan, monitor, and evaluate SEDPs and policies for children. Established (Score 3): There is strong evidence collected

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
improved state accountability for the realization of children's rights	Baseline: 2 (2016) Target: 3 (2021)		Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international standards 1.2. Enhanced national capacity for child rights-focused socioeconomic planning and public financial management 1.3. Ongoing sector reforms are strengthened to improve service quality and equity, including for emergency preparedness and response	UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, World Bank Other ADB			
	Percentage of Committee on the Rights of the Child concluding observations implemented Baseline: 81 (2016) Target: 91 (2021) 1c. Level of application of child and equity focused approaches by the Government to public financial management[2] Baseline: 1 (2016) Target: 3 (2021)	Committee on the Rights of the Child reports					
	Existence of legislation on child protection aligned with international standards[3] Baseline: 2 (2016) Target: 3 (2021)	Assessment reports					
2. By 2021, social protection measures are more equitable and inclusive and there is a	Availability of legal and policy framework for operationalization of child grant	MOLISA reports	2.1. Social protection measures are strengthened to respond to multi-dimensional child poverty and vulnerabilities	National Assembly, MPI, MOF, MOLISA, MOET, MOH, GSO	2 037	4 430	6 467

1. of use of disaggregated data to plan, monitor, and evaluate SEDPs and policies for children. Championing (Score 4): There is strong evidence collected of systematic use of disaggregated data to plan, monitor, and evaluate SEDPs and policies for children.

2 Weak (Score 1): There is no evidence of application of child and equity focused approaches by Government to public finance management; Initiating (Score 2): There is little evidence collected of application of child and equity focused approaches by Government to public finance management; Established (Score 3): There is strong evidence collected of application of child and equity focused approaches by Government to public finance management; Championing (Score 4): There is strong evidence collected of systematic application of child and equity focused approaches by Government to public finance management.

3 Weak (Score 1): There is no alignment of legislation on child protection with international standards; Initiating (Score 2): There are some alignments of legislation on child protection with international standards; Established (Score 3): There is a strong alignment of legislation on child protection with international standards; Championing (Score 4): There is a full alignment of legislation on child protection with international standards.

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
functioning child protection system, staffed by qualified service providers	Baseline: No (2016) Target: Yes (2021)		2.2. An operational child protection system is developed that prevents and responds to child neglect, abuse, violence and exploitation	UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, World Bank Other ADB			
	Level of use of child poverty data to plan, monitor, evaluate social protection policies, programmes and budgeting for children[4] Baseline: 2 (2016) Target: 4 (2021)	UNICEF-MOLISA Review					
	Percentage of communes in three targeted provinces supported by the Government to implement child protection system Baseline: 24 (2016) Target: 50 (2021)	MOLISA reports					
3. By 2021, in selected areas of three provinces, all children and their families, especially the most vulnerable, utilize inclusive and quality IECD services	Percentage of children aged 6 to 23 months who receive a minimum acceptable diet Baseline: 62% (2014) Target: 80% (2021)	MICS	3.1 Service providers have improved knowledge and skills to promote and deliver quality inclusive IECD services 3.2 Commune health centres are able to coordinate local IECD services, make referrals, and ensure access for vulnerable groups 3.3. Parents and caregivers are	PPCs in three provinces, national and local departments of MOLISA, MOET, MOH, MARD	3 552	19 834	23 386
	Percentage of mothers receiving post-natal care within two days of delivery	MICS					
	Proportion of the population having an improved sanitation facility	MICS					

[4] Weak (Score 1): There is no evidence of use of child poverty data to plan, monitor, and evaluate social protection policies, programmes and budgeting for children; Initiating (Score 2): There is little evidence collected of use of child poverty data to plan, monitor, and evaluate social protection policies, programmes and budgeting for children; Established (Score 3): There is strong evidence collected of use of child poverty data to plan, monitor, and evaluate social protection policies, programmes and budgeting for children; Championing (Score 4): There is strong evidence collected of systematic use of child poverty data to plan, monitor, and evaluate social protection policies, programmes and budgeting for children.

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	Baseline: 79 % (2014) Target: 89 % (2021)		able to provide early stimulation, positive parenting and protection in homes and communities 3.4. A social assistance mechanism developed and piloted to increase access to IECD services				
	Attendance rate in early childhood education programme Baseline: 71% (2014) Target: 90% (2021)	MICS					
	Number of communes with functioning IECD services Baseline: 0 (2016) Target: 10 (2021)	PPC reports					
4. By 2021, concrete actions are taken by civil society,[5] the corporate sector and the public for social changes that address critical child rights concerns	Percentage of Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) members from the footwear, apparel, travel and tourism industry who report annually on child rights actions and policies Baseline: 0 (2016) Target: 20% (2021)	UNICEF-VCCI Review	4.1. The corporate sector has improved capacity and commitment to respect the Children's Rights and Business Principles and take actions to support child rights 4.2. There are functional mechanisms for participation of children and adolescents to influence development and social change agendas 4.3. There is greater public awareness and partnership to change harmful social norms and address inequities affecting children	VCCI Ho Chi Minh City, PPC, MOLISA, Youth Union, Traditional media Foreign chambers of commerce, UNICEF Corporate Advisory Board	7 291	5 064	12 355
	Percentage of parents and caregivers who state that physical discipline of children is acceptable Baseline: 14.6 (2014) Target: 10 (2021)	MICS					
	Number of persons reached by UNICEF public advocacy and communication and who are engaged and take action for the realization of child	UNICEF survey					

[5] Civil society in Viet Nam (see footnote 30 in the narrative).

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	rights Baseline: (to be collected in 2017) Target: Increase by 15%						
5. The country programme is efficiently designed, coordinated, managed and supported to meet quality programming standards to achieve results for children	Percentage of results reported annually as on-track or achieved Baseline: 0 Target: More than 75%	UNICEF reports	5.1 Guidelines, tools, and resources for effective programme design and management 5.2 Effective programme component management	One Strategic Plan management groups	1 950	371	2 321
	Percentage of evaluation recommendations implemented Baseline: 0 Target: 100%	UNICEF reports					
Total resources					**22 110**	**50 000**	**72 110**